

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	1				
Fod 1 P 93496 Hv	FOR FURTHER ACTIO	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)			
International application No.	International filing date (day month year)	Priority date (day month year)		
PCT/NO 93/00136	10/09/1993		14/09/1992		
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC					
G01N33/53					
Applicant					
FODSTAD, Oystein et al					
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VI Certain documents cited					
VII Certain defects in the international application					
VIII Certain observations or	VIII Certain observations on the international application				
Date of submission of the demand Date of completion of this report		f this report			
14/04/1994			0 6. 12. 94		
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/ European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. (+ 49-89) 2399-0, Tx: 5236: Fax: (+ 49-89) 2399-4465	56 epmu d	othorized officer	hell F. Hallé		

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1. This report has been drawn up on the basis of:	,
[] the international application as originally filed	l.
[x] the description, pages 14-18,22-27	, as originally filed,
	, filed with the demand,
	, filed with the letter of 26.08.94,
pages	filed with the letter of,
[x] the claims, No	, as originally filed,
No	, as amended under Article 19,
No	, filed with the demand,
No. 1-16	, filed with the letter of 26.08.94,
No	, filed with the letter of,
[] the drawings, sheets/fig	, as originally filed,
sheets/fig	, filed with the demand,
	, filed with the letter of
sheets/fig	, filed with the letter of
2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: pages sheets of drawings/figures h	ges:
3. [] This report has been established as if (some of) the considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed:	e amendments had not been made, since they have been
1. Additional observations, if necessary:	

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement					
1. STATEMENT					
Novelty (N)	Claims 1-16				
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims 1-16_				
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims				
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims 1-16				
	Claims	NO			

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

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Having regard to the prior art documents cited in the International Search Report, the subject-matter claimed appears to meet the requirements of Article 33(2)(3)(4) PCT.

Indeed, the invention relates to a method for detecting target cells in mixed cell populations. Such a method as claimed is not anticipated by the prior art.

It is to be noted that the prior art document "WO-A-92 04961" (cited in the Search Report and referred to in the description) also refers to methods for magnetic separations. However, the methods disclosed in that document do not appear to be appropriate for examination of solid tissues contrary to present invention. Moreover, the magnetic system used in that prior art method substantially differs from that of present innvention. Therefore it seems unlikely that the present invention could be derived from the prior art without inventive skill.